

EXHIBIT B

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Attorneys for Defendants Fern C. Palmer; Pamela K. Marxen; Kurt B. Palmer; and Bruce N. Palmer; Estate of Boyer Palmer, in its capacity as the estate of Boyer Palmer individually and as the former general partner of B&F Palmer, L.P.; Diane Holmers, in her capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of Boyer Palmer; and Bruce Palmer, in his capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of Boyer Palmer

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION
 CORPORATION,

Plaintiff-Applicant,

v.

BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT
 SECURITIES LLC,

Defendant.

In re:

BERNARD L. MADOFF,

Debtor.

IRVING H. PICARD, Trustee for the Liquidation of
 Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

FERN C. PALMER; PAMELA K. MARXEN; KURT
 B. PALMER; and BRUCE N. PALMER; ESTATE OF

Adv. Pro. No. 08-1789 (SMB)

SIPA LIQUIDATION

(Substantively Consolidated)

Adv. Pro. No. 10-05133 (SMB)

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

BOYER PALMER, in its capacity as the estate of Boyer Palmer individually and as the former general partner of B&F Palmer, L.P.; DIANE HOLMERS, in her capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of Boyer Palmer; and BRUCE PALMER, in his capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of Boyer Palmer,

Defendants.

ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

Fern C. Palmer; Pamela K. Marxen; Kurt B. Palmer; and Bruce N. Palmer; Estate of Boyer Palmer, in its capacity as the estate of Boyer Palmer individually and as the former general partner of B&F Palmer, L.P.; Diane Holmers, in her capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of Boyer Palmer; and Bruce Palmer, in his capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of Boyer Palmer (“Defendants”), by and through their undersigned counsel, as and for their Answer to the Complaint filed by Irving H. Picard (“Plaintiff”), as trustee for the liquidation of the business of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC (“BLMIS”) under the Securities Investor Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa, *et seq.* (“SIPA”),¹ and the substantively consolidated estate of Bernard L. Madoff individually (“Madoff”), state as follows:

Pursuant to the Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Defendants’ Motions to Dismiss entered in this proceeding on July 16, 2015 [ECF No. 40], the Court dismissed all counts other than those seeking to avoid and recover initial transfers pursuant to sections 548(a)(1)(A), and 551 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Court dismissed without prejudice counts seeking to recover subsequent transfers from subsequent transferee defendants pursuant to section 550(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, applicable provision of SIPA including section 78fff-2(c)(3) and New York Debtor Creditor Law. Therefore, no response to these counts is required. To the extent a response is required, the allegations as to those counts are denied.

¹ For convenience, future reference to SIPA will not include “15 U.S.C.”

3. This adversary proceeding is brought pursuant to sections 78fff(b), 78fff-1(a) and 78fff-2(c)(3) of SIPA, sections 105(a), 544, 548(a), 550(a) and 551 of title 11 of the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”), the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act (New York Debtor and Creditor Law § 270 *et seq.* (McKinney 2001) (“DCL”)) and other applicable law, for avoidance of fraudulent conveyances in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of Defendant. The Trustee seeks to set aside such transfers and preserve and recover the property for the benefit of BLMIS’ defrauded customers.

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 3.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4. This is an adversary proceeding commenced before the same Court before whom the main underlying SIPA proceeding, No. 08-01789 (BRL) (the “SIPA Proceeding”), is pending. The SIPA Proceeding was originally brought in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York as *Securities Exchange Commission v. Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC et al.*, No. 08 CV 10791 (the “District Court Proceeding”) and has been referred to this Court. This Court has jurisdiction over this adversary proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 1334(b) and 15 U.S.C. §§ 78eee(b)(2)(A), (b)(4).

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 4.

5. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A), (H) and (O).

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 5. Pursuant to Local Rule 9027-2, Defendants do not consent to the entry of final orders or judgment by the Bankruptcy Court.

6. Venue in this district is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1409.

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 6.

DEFENDANTS

7. B&F Palmer L.P. held a BLMIS account in the name, “B&F Palmer LP Boyer H Palmer General Partner.”

ANSWER: Defendants admit the allegations of Paragraph 7.

8. Upon information and belief, Defendant/Subsequent Transferee Defendant Boyer H. Palmer is the former general partner of B&F Palmer L.P. and maintains his residence in Medina, Minnesota.

ANSWER: Defendant Boyer H. Palmer is deceased and the Trustee was notified.

9. Upon information and belief, Subsequent Transferee Defendant Fern C. Palmer is a former limited partner of B&F Palmer L.P. and maintains her residence in Medina, Minnesota.

ANSWER: Defendant Fern C. Palmer admits the allegations of Paragraph 9.

10. Upon information and belief, Subsequent Transferee Defendant Pamela K. Marxen is a former limited partner of B&F Palmer L.P. and maintains her residence in Corcoran, Minnesota.

ANSWER: Defendant Pamela K. Marxen admits the allegations of Paragraph 10.

11. Upon information and belief, Subsequent Transferee Defendant Kurt B. Palmer is a former limited partner of B&F Palmer L.P. and maintains his residence in Maple Grove, Minnesota.

ANSWER: Defendant Kurt B. Palmer admits the allegations of Paragraph 11.

12. Upon information and belief, Subsequent Transferee Defendant Bruce N. Palmer is a former limited partner of B&F Palmer L.P. and maintains his residence in Estero, Florida.

ANSWER: Defendant Bruce N. Palmer admits the allegations of Paragraph 12.

No. 09-CR-213 (DC) (S.D.N.Y. March 12, 2009) (Docket No. 50). Additionally, Madoff asserted “[a]s I engaged in my fraud, I knew what I was doing [was] wrong, indeed criminal.” *Id.* Madoff was sentenced on June 29, 2009 to 150 years in prison.

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 18.

19. On August 11, 2009, a former BLMIS employee, Frank DiPascali, pled guilty to participating in and conspiring to perpetuate the Ponzi scheme. At a Plea Hearing on August 11, 2009 in the case entitled *United States v. DiPascali*, Case No. 09-CR-764 (RJS), DiPascali pled guilty to a ten-count criminal information. Among other things, DiPascali admitted that the fictitious scheme had begun at BLMIS since at least the 1980s. Plea Allocation of Frank DiPascali at 46, *United States v. DiPascali*, No. 09-CR-764 (RJS) (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 11, 2009) (Docket No. 11).

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 19.

20. As the Trustee appointed under SIPA, the Trustee is charged with recovering and paying out customer property to BLMIS’ customers, assessing claims, and liquidating any other assets of the firm for the benefit of the estate and its creditors. The Trustee is in the process of marshalling BLMIS’ assets, and the liquidation of BLMIS’ assets is well underway. However, such assets will not be sufficient to reimburse the customers of BLMIS for the billions of dollars that they invested with BLMIS over the years. Consequently, the Trustee must use his authority under SIPA and the Bankruptcy Code to pursue recovery from customers who received preferences and/or payouts of fictitious profits to the detriment of other defrauded customers whose money was consumed by the Ponzi scheme. Absent this or other recovery actions, the

- d. SIPC has not reimbursed, and statutorily cannot fully reimburse, all customers for all of their losses;
- e. the Trustee will not be able to fully satisfy all claims;
- f. customer bailors;
- g. The Trustee is the assignee of claims paid, and to be paid, to customers of BLMIS who have filed claims in the liquidation proceeding (such claim-filing customers, collectively, “Accountholders”). As of the date hereof, the Trustee has received multiple express unconditional assignments of the applicable Accountholders’ causes of action, which actions could have been asserted against Defendant and Subsequent Transferee Defendants. As assignee, the Trustee stands in the shoes of persons who have suffered injury in fact and a distinct and palpable loss for which the Trustee is entitled to reimbursement in the form of monetary damages. The Trustee brings this action on behalf of, among others, those defrauded customers of BLMIS who invested more money in BLMIS than they withdrew; and
- h. SIPC is the subrogee of claims paid, and to be paid, to customers of BLMIS who have filed claims in the liquidation proceeding. SIPC has expressly conferred upon the Trustee enforcement of its rights of subrogation with respect to payments it has made and is making to customers of BLMIS from SIPC funds.

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 23.

THE FRAUDULENT PONZI SCHEME

24. Founded in 1959, BLMIS began operations as a sole proprietorship of Madoff and later, effective January 2001, formed as a New York limited liability company wholly owned by Madoff. Since in or about 1986, BLMIS operated from its principal place of business at 885 Third Avenue, New York, New York. Madoff, as founder, proprietor, chairman, and chief executive officer, ran BLMIS together with several family members and a number of additional

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 28.

29. Additionally, based on the Trustee's investigation to date, there is no evidence that BLMIS ever purchased or sold any of the options that Madoff claimed on customer statements to have purchased and sold.

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 29.

30. For all periods relevant hereto, the IA Business was operated as a Ponzi scheme and Madoff and his co-conspirators concealed the ongoing fraud in an effort to hinder, delay or defraud other current and prospective customers of BLMIS. The money received from investors was not set aside to buy securities as purported, but instead was primarily used to make the distributions to – or payments on behalf of – other investors. The money sent to BLMIS for investment, in short, was simply used to keep the scheme going and to enrich Madoff, his associates and others, including Defendant, until such time as the requests for redemptions in December 2008 overwhelmed the flow of new investments and caused the inevitable collapse of the Ponzi scheme.

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 30.

31. The payments to investors constituted an intentional misrepresentation of fact regarding the underlying accounts and were an integral and essential part of the fraud. The payments were necessary to validate the false account statements, and were made to avoid detection of the fraud, to retain existing investors and to lure other investors into the Ponzi scheme.

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 31.

33. When payments were made to or on behalf of these investors, including Defendant, the falsified monthly statements of accounts reported that the accounts of such investors included substantial gains. In reality, BLMIS had not invested the investors' principal as reflected in customer statements. In an attempt to conceal the ongoing fraud and thereby hinder, delay or defraud other current and prospective investors, BLMIS paid to or on behalf of certain investors the inflated amounts reflected in the falsified financial statements, including principal and/or fictitious profits.

34. BLMIS used the funds deposited from new investments to continue operations and pay redemption proceeds to or on behalf of other investors and to make other transfers. Due to the siphoning and diversion of new investments to fund redemptions requested by other investors, BLMIS did not have the funds to pay investors on account of their new investments. BLMIS was able to stay afloat only by using the principal invested by some clients to pay other investors or their designees.

in the Account, but, in reality, they were other people's money. The Transfers were made to or for the benefit of Defendant and are set forth in Columns 10 and 11 on Exhibit B annexed hereto.

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 41.

42. The Transfers that are avoidable and recoverable under sections 548(a), 550(a)(1) and 551 of the Bankruptcy Code and applicable provisions of SIPA, particularly SIPA section 78fff-2(c)(3) total at least \$968,000 and are referred to hereafter as the "Two Year Transfers." *See* Exhibit B, Column 10. The Transfers that are avoidable and recoverable under sections 544(b), 550(a)(1) and 551 of the Bankruptcy Code, applicable provisions of SIPA, particularly SIPA section 78fff-2(c)(3), and applicable provisions of N.Y. CPLR 203(g) (McKinney 2001) and DCL sections 273 – 279 (McKinney 2001) total at least \$2,202,000 and are referred to hereafter as the "Six Year Transfers." *See* Exhibit B, Column 11.

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 42.

43. On information and belief, some or all of the Transfers were subsequently transferred by Defendant to Subsequent Transferee Defendants (collectively, the "Subsequent Transfers").

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 43.

44. The Subsequent Transfers, or the value thereof, are recoverable from Subsequent Transferee Defendants pursuant to §550(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 44.

45. The Trustee's investigation is ongoing and the Trustee reserves the right to (i) supplement the information regarding the Transfers, Subsequent Transfers, and any additional transfers and (ii) seek recovery of such additional transfers.

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 45.

46. To the extent that any of the avoidance and/or recovery counts may be inconsistent with each other, they are to be treated as being pled in the alternative.

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 46.

COUNT ONE
FRAUDULENT TRANSFER – 11 U.S.C. §§ 548(a)(1)(A), 550(a) AND 551

47. To the extent applicable, the Trustee incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully rewritten herein.

ANSWER: Defendants repeat the answers heretofore stated.

48. Each of the Two Year Transfers was made on or within two years before the Filing Date.

ANSWER: Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of Paragraph 48.

49. Each of the Two Year Transfers constituted a transfer of an interest of BLMIS in property within the meaning of section 101(54) of the Bankruptcy Code and pursuant to section 78fff-2(c)(3) of SIPA.

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 49.

50. Each of the Two Year Transfers was made by BLMIS with the actual intent to hinder, delay or defraud some or all of BLMIS' then existing and/or future creditors.

ANSWER: Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 50.

7. The Trustee's prosecution of these claims is a denial of Defendants' rights to due process of law because the Trustee is a quasi-governmental officer and he has an economic interest in each litigation because he receives at least 15% of all legal fees paid to Baker & Hostetler LLP.

8. The claims are not ripe because they do not meet the conditions of section 78fff-2(c)(3) of SIPA. The Trustee has not established that there is a shortfall in customer property.

9. The transfers are not avoidable and/or recoverable because the funds at issue were not property of the bankruptcy estate in which BLMIS or Madoff had a legal interest. *See In re Enron*, 2002 WL 32772482 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2002)

10. The Complaint fails to state a claim on which relief can be granted because it fails to properly plead the elements required for the avoidance of BLMIS' or Madoff's obligations. Absent an action to avoid BLMIS' or Madoff's obligations to pay what is owed to the customer under applicable state law, the transfers were all made on account of antecedent debt. To the extent the Trustee will attempt to plead the avoidance of obligations, he is not authorized under governing statutes to pursue such avoidance claims.

11. The payments received by the Defendants were taken without actual fraudulent intent and for fair consideration, as provided by section 278(2) of the New York Debtor and Creditor Law. They are thus not avoidable or recoverable as against the Defendants under sections 544 and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code or sections 272 through 276 of the New York Debtor and Creditor Law.

12. The payments received by the Defendants were taken for fair consideration and without knowledge of the fraud, as provided by section 278(1) of the New York Debtor and Creditor Law. They are thus not avoidable or recoverable as against the Defendants under

Sections 544 and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code or sections 272 through 276 of the New York Debtor and Creditor Law.

13. The Trustee's claims are barred by his own breach of fiduciary duty.
14. The Trustee's claims are barred in whole or part by applicable statutes of limitations.
15. The Trustee's calculation of Defendants' liability violates the Defendants' due process rights.
16. The Defendants are entitled to setoff, recoupment, and/or equitable adjustment because each year Defendants were required to pay taxes on the fictitious profits" reported on, among other things, IRS Form 1099 and other information reported by BLMIS or Madoff to the Internal Revenue Service, state and/or local governmental taxing authorities.
17. The Internal Revenue Service was a co-obligor of Defendants, with whom the Trustee settled all claims without the consent of Defendants, thereby discharging Defendants of any liability.
18. Each claim for recovery of a fraudulent transfer is subject to setoff or equitable adjustment because the Defendants received such transfer in good faith, without knowledge of the alleged fraud, and in payment of an antecedent debt, in whole or in part, on account of obligations owed by BLMIS or Madoff for, *inter alia*, (a) amounts contractually due to customers under New York law for the balances shown on prior customer account statements and related documents; (b) rescission remedies, including damages and interest for fraud and misrepresentation pursuant to federal and state law; (c) the time value of money; (d) unjust enrichment; (e) damages for breach of fiduciary duty; and/or (f) money had and received.

beginning of the statute of limitations period.

Defendants with withdrawals that the Trustee has no proof were taken.

21. The Trustee's claims are barred by estoppel, waiver, or laches.

equitable defenses.

the Bankruptcy Code.

24. Madoff and/or BLMIS was not a Ponzi scheme at all relevant times.

not insolvent at the time of each of the transfers allegedly received by the Defendants and

back periods for the avoidance of transfers.

inter-account transfers, profit withdrawals, and other adjustments.

the time value of money through an interest adjustment to principal deposits.

to sufficiently trace the funds at issue from BLMIS or Madoff to the Defendants.

30. Recovery of attorneys' fees from the Defendants is not permissible under sections 544 and 550 of the Bankruptcy Code and section 276-a of the New York Debtor and Creditor Law because such fees are not a "transfer" or "conveyance" under applicable law.

31. Even if the Trustee is entitled to the return of some or all of the transfers, he is not entitled to interest from the date of each alleged transfer.

32. The claims are barred in whole or part by *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, and/or issue preclusion.

33. The Complaint is barred, in whole or in part, because the Trustee has failed to plead all of the elements of fraudulent transfer under sections 548(a)(1)(A) and 548(a)(1)(B) of the Bankruptcy Code with sufficient particularity and factual support.

34. The Complaint is barred, in whole or in part, because the Trustee has failed to plead all of the elements of fraudulent transfer under section 544 of the Bankruptcy Code and sections 273, 274, 275, 276, 276-a, 278 and/or 279 of the New York Debtor and Creditor Law with sufficient particularity and factual support.

35. BLMIS or Madoff purchased securities with the Defendants' money, even if those securities were not allocated on BLMIS' or Madoff's records to the Defendants' account.

36. The Trustee's claims violate the New York State policy of finality in financial transactions.

37. The withdrawals that the Trustee seeks to recover were legally compelled under State and federal securities laws.

38. Customers are entitled to 9% interest from the date of deposit under New York law and under the Securities Exchange Act.

39. Customers are entitled to full-dollar credit for funds transferred into their accounts.

40. The Trustee's calculation of claims going back beyond the statute of limitations period violates the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution and violates the New York State Constitution.

41. The Trustee lacks standing because BLMIS was not formed until 2001 and the orders of the District Court and the Bankruptcy Court did not give the Trustee authority to recover fraudulent transfers of Bernard Madoff.

42. There can be no liability of any recipient of funds who, as a matter of law or contract, was required to transfer any portion of the funds to a third party.

43. The Defendants cannot be liable for withdrawals that Defendants were legally compelled to transfer to state and federal taxing authorities.

44. The Trustee's claims are barred by any applicable statute of repose.

45. Defendants are entitled to full-dollar credit for all deposits made within the reach back period.

46. The Trustee's claims are barred in whole or part for failure to properly credit Defendants with all of Defendants' deposits.

Defendants assert the foregoing affirmative defenses and reserve the right to amend this Answer to assert other and further defenses when and if, in the course of the investigation, discovery, or preparation for trial it becomes appropriate. By designating these matters as "defenses," Defendants do not relieve the Trustee of proving under the appropriate standard of proof all elements of any claim alleged. Defendants do not undertake any burdens that properly rest upon the Trustee, and do not suggest either that the Trustee does not bear the burden of proof

as to such matters or that such matters are not elements that he must establish in order to make out a *prima facie* case against Defendants.

Defendants further adopt and incorporate by reference any and all other defenses asserted or to be asserted by any other defendant or party-in-interest to the extent that Defendants are similarly situated and may properly assert such defense.

WHEREFORE, Defendants respectfully request that the Complaint be dismissed as against Defendants, and that costs be awarded against the Trustee.

Dated: September 17, 2015
New York, New York

BECKER & POLIAKOFF LLP

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